

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 CU-04 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-13 NSAE-00

RSC-01 OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

AGR-20 STR-08 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 SAJ-01 RSR-01 /215 W

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R 101215Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1633

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 3055

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EC

SUBJECT: MEETING OF EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS

1. SUMMARY: MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT
FOR EC POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS (VAN EEKELEN) TOLD US THAT
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EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS AT THEIR MEETING IN HELSINKI DURING

FIRST PHASE OF CSCE DISCUSSED SECOND REPORT OF LUXEMBOURG,
US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS AND CSCE. END SUMMARY.

2. SECOND REPORT OF LUXEMBOURG. RECALLING FRENCH OPPOSITION TO ESTABLISHING A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EC AND EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERATION, VAN EEKELEN SAID UK, FRG, NETHS AND OTHERS CONTENDED THAT IT WAS SILLY TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENTS, PARTICULARLY SINCE THIS ARBITRARY SEPARATION WASTED THE TIME OF INDIVIDUAL MINISTERS. IN RESPONSE TO FORMULA PREVIOUSLY DEVELOPED WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE EC ON ONE HAND, AND THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE OR FOREIGN MINISTERS DURING QUARTERLY MEETINGS ON POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS, ON THE OTHER, TO SOLICIT CONTRIBUTIONS FROM EACH OTHER IN THE COURSE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE DELIBERATIONS, THE FRENCH CONTENDED THAT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC MATTERS WERE DISTINCT. THE DUTCH OPPOSED PUTTING THIS IN WRITING SINCE, WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THEY WERE SEPARATE AREAS, THEY DID NOT WISH TO INHIBIT FUTURE WORKING COOPERATION IN THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL FIELDS. FINALLY, DAVIGNON COMPOSED WORDING WHICH STATES THAT POLITICAL CONSULTATION IS DISTINCT FROM EC BUT IS "JOINED" INASMUCH AS BOTH HAVE THE OBJECTIVE OF CONTRIBUTING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROCESS OF EUROPEAN UNIFICATION. THIS WORKING WILL GO TO MINISTERS AS THE LAST REMAINING ITEM TO BE AGREED IN THE REPORT.

3. THE DUTCH PROPOSED THAT EC FOREIGN MINISTERS APPROVE THE REPORT WHEN THEY GATHER ON JULY 23 FOR EC MEETING IN BRUSSELS. FRENCH REFUSED, SAYING THAT MEETING TO APPROVE REPORT SHOULD BE HELD IN COPENHAGEN, AND AS RESULT MINISTERS WILL MEET IN COPENHAGEN FOR POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS ON MORNING OF JULY 23 TO CONSIDER REPORT AND THEN FLY TO BRUSSELS FOR EC MEETING.

4. US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS. RECALLING THAT FRENCH HAD SAID THEY WANTED NO SPECIAL PREPARATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY POLITICAL DIRECTORS, VAN EEKELEN SAID FRENCH INDICATED THAT THEY ARE NOW PREPARED FOR POLITICAL DIRECTORS TO IDENTIFY CERTAIN QUESTIONS WHICH MINISTERS CAN CONSIDER AT THEIR JULY 23 MEETING. VAN EEKELEN REPORTED THAT
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QUESTIONNAIRE TO BE PREPARED BY POLITICAL DIRECTORS WILL INTER ALIA DEAL WITH THE PROCEDURAL SIDE OF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT NIXON. FRENCH HAVE NOW FORMALLY PROPOSED THAT PRESIDENT MEET WITH CHAIRMAN OF EC COUNCIL AND CHAIRMAN OF EC COMMISSION. THE BRITISH SAID THEY COULD ACCEPT THIS BUT HOPED FONMINS OF NINE ALSO COULD BE PRESENT (MAKING TOTAL OF 10 EUROPEANS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT). VAN EEKELEN NOTED THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE DESCRIBED AS PRESIDENTIAL

MEETING WITH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF EC OR WITH EC FOREIGN MINISTERS WEARING POLITICAL COOPERATION HAT, BUT IN FACT IT WOULD BE SINCE THE SAME INDIVIDUALS WOULD BE INVOLVED. VAN EEKELEN COMMENTED THIS WOULD CIRCUMVENT FRENCH OPPOSITION TO A MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE EC COUNCIL AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL.

5. ON SUBSTANCE, UK PROPOSED THAT POLITICAL COMMITTEE DRAFT PAPER ON EUROPEAN IDENTITY VIS-A-VIS THE US WHICH WOULD CONSTITUTE A WORKING DOCUMENT FOR THE NINE. VAN EEKELEN SAID THE ADVANTAGE TO SUCH A PAPER WOULD BE THAT IT COULD ENCOMPASS ALL ASPECTS OF US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS AND PROVIDE A COMMON FRAME OF REFERENCE FOR INTERNAL DISCUSSIONS. HE SAID MINISTERS WILL HAVE TO CONSIDER THIS, AND THAT IT SHOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR THE FRENCH TO OPPOSE THE PROPOSAL.

6. VAN EEKELEN SAID THE DUTCH TOOK THE POSITION THAT AFTER THE JULY 23 MEETING OF EC MINISTERS THE PRESIDENT OF THE EC COMMISSION WILL HAVE TO BE PRESENT AT ANY DISCUSSIONS OF US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS.

7. THE GERMANS ASKED WHETHER A COMMUNIQUE SHOULD BE ISSUED FOLLOWING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO BRUSSELS. BONN BELIEVED A COMMUNIQUE WOULD BE DESIRABLE SINCE IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE CONTENT OF AN ATLANTIC DECLARATION WILL HAVE BEEN WORKED OUT BY THEN, AND SUCH A COMMUNIQUE COULD DRAW ON WORKING IN PREVIOUS BILATERAL COMMUNIQUE. VAN EEKELEN THOUGHT FRENCH PROBABLY WILL OPPOSE THIS IDEA..

8. CSCE. THE DUTCH WERE PLEASED THAT THE FRENCH HAD BEEN DISSUADED FROM TAILORING THEIR DOCUMENT ON PRINCIPLES AT THE FIRST PHASE OF CSCE, FEELING THIS WAS EVIDENCE
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OF SOME SUCCESS AMONGST THE NINE IN SEEKING HARMONIZATION OF THE CONTENTS OF A DOCUMENT BEFORE IT IS LAUNCHED.

9. VAN EEKELEN SAID POLITICAL DIRECTORS DID NOT GET DEEPLY INTO CSCE PHASE II BUT HAD AGREED TO A MEETING OF THEIR CSCE SUBCOMMITTEE IN COPENHAGEN JULY 17 AND 18 TO EVALUATE THE FIRST PHASE AND CONSIDER FRENCH PROPOSALS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED IN PHASE I. THE SUBCOMMITTEE WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE ORGANIZATION AND RHYTHM OF PHASE II, THE OBJECTIVE BEING TO ESTABLISH AN EQUILIBRIUM BETWEEN WORK OF THE VARIOUS COMMISSIONS AND SUBCOMMITTEES.

10. VAN EEKELEN SAID FRENCH HAD VETOED BELGIAN PROPOSAL THAT THE NINE ESTABLISH TASK FORCE OR SECRETARIAT AT GENEVA FOR PHASE II, CONTENDING THAT THIS WOULD RESULT IN

TOO MUCH RIGIDITY AND THAT AFTER ALL PHASE I HAD PRODUCED
A FRAMEWORK FOR WORK DURING PHASE II. VAN EEKELEN
OBSERVED THE FRENCH CLEARLY WANT FREEDOM OF MANEUVER
DURING PHASE II.

11. AS FOOTNOTE, VAN EEKELEN SAID THAT APPROACHES
WHICH US HAD MADE TO EC GOVTS REGARDING FINANCING OF
RADIO FREE EUROPE AND RADIO LIBERTY WOULD BE TAKEN
UP BY THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS AT THEIR NEXT MEETING.
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